

IS YOUR BABY GAINING WEIGHT A LITTLE TOO FAST?

Health Tips
For Mothers & Fathers

The growth charts are saying, "Watch out! This baby is gaining weight a little too fast!"

This does NOT mean that your baby is "fat" or has a weight problem.

It means your baby is gaining fast and COULD have a weight problem if it keeps up.

Your Baby Still Needs To Gain Weight, Just A Little More Slowly!

Here are some things you can explore:

- * Are other people feeding my baby too much?
 Are older children giving my baby candy or kool-aid and other sweet beverages?
 If the answer is yes, make some new rules.
- * Is somebody feeding my baby every time my baby cries?

This could happen at home or in day care. If the answer is **yes**, make some new rules.

- * Is my baby drinking too much milk and juice?

 If the answer is yes, try giving a pacifier. Babies need to use their sucking reflex.
- * Is my baby getting too many sweets?

 If the answer is yes, give more plain fruits. Don't give baby food desserts or candy. Make some rules for others to follow. Let others know you are serious.
- * Is my baby getting fried foods?

 If the answer is yes, cut them out. Also cut out chips and other high fat snacks.
- * Is my baby getting cereal in the bottle or food from an infant feeder?

If the answer is **yes**, it is time to give all baby's food with the spoon.

Remember:

Your baby should not go on a diet! Your baby does not need to lose weight! Your baby just needs to gain weight a little more slowly!

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

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